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Evaluation of CIA/RR-G-19, Postwar Development in the "Western Territories" of Poland

1. The subject report describes the extent to which the Poles have developed or failed to develop the former German territories east of the Oder-Neisse line as an integral part of Poland, and discusses the part played by this area in the overall Polish economy. An appraisal of developments in this area is of intelligence interest not only because they affect the viability of Poland as a state but also because they have and will doubtless continue to have considerable influence on Polish-German relations.

2. The report discusses the area as a whole and, insofar as source materials permit, regional differences within the area. Growth or decline in population, agriculture, mining and various industries is described statistically by a comparison of prewar German data with recently published Polish data. Until the release of detailed statistics by the Polish government within the last two or three years it was not possible to make an overall evaluation of development of the "Western Territories," for only fragmentary information was available. The present report therefore fills a gap in finished intelligence on the area, since it utilizes the recent data.

3. In my opinion the report represents a careful and preceptive analysis of the available information. The finished product involved detailed and laborious comparison and adjustment of different sets of figures, and this has been successfully accomplished.

4. Intelligence analysts concerned with Poland, Polish-German relations and the Soviet Bloc should find the study of value. It may be considered as of medium to high, but not urgent priority, since the problem dealt with is a continuing one.

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